



Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 93899118

County of Child's Residence: HARRIS

Gender: Male

Age: 0 Year(s) 8 Month(s)

Date of Death: 09/11/2018

On the date of the fatality, the child was not in DFPS conservatorship and was living with the child's parent, a managing conservator, a legal guardian or other person entitled to the child's possession.

Child's Name: Turrubiates,Angel

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 09/08/2018 & 09/08/2018

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The agency received a report that the deceased child had been transported to the hospital after being found unresponsive by his mother. The mother stated that the child had fallen out of the crib onto a carpeted floor face down. The mother stated that the child did not lose consciousness so she placed him back into the crib. The mother stated that the child cried intermittently but the mother found him later unresponsive. The child was transported to the hospital in a private car.

A subsequent report was received on the same date relating the same incident but stated that the mother waited until the afternoon after the incident occurred to bring the child to the hospital. The child's condition was listed as unstable but he was still alive. The child died in the hospital three days later. The report stated the child had brain swelling, hematomas, and a spinal injury.

Investigation Findings:

The deceased child's mother stated that the child fell from his crib onto the carpeted floor on top of some toys. Medical staff assessed that the mother's explanation was not consistent with the child's injuries. The mother later clarified that the child fell out of the crib on a Tuesday and she did not take him to the hospital until four days later. The mother reported that she took the child to his primary care physician after the incident. The child's primary care physician's office could not confirm the mother's statement of the child coming into the office. During the maternal uncle's forensic interview, he reported the mother initially told him that the child fell from his crib and later told him that someone came into the home and beat her and the baby. None of the minor children or other adults in the home could give an account of actually seeing the child fall from the crib. The other persons in the home reported only what the mother told them. The maternal grandmother stated that she told the mother to take the child to the hospital the first time she saw the child with bruises and was told about his fall. The mother reported that she was the primary caregiver for the child and only she took care of the child. Law Enforcement reported that the mother provided the same explanation of the child falling out of the crib, but she called back later to say that the incident had occurred on the Tuesday which four days prior to the day the child was found unresponsive. The case is still pending the final autopsy and no charges have been filed.

The siblings, ages three and four, were seen in the Care Clinic and no injuries were found. The agency requested and was granted custody of both children. The children were initially placed in a Parental Child Safety Placement with a family member and remained in the placement after custody was granted. The biological father of all three children cannot care for the children.

The allegations of medical neglect and physical abuse of the deceased child by the child's mother were confirmed. The child was transported to the hospital by his mother after being found unresponsive. The mother reported that the child fell from his crib onto a carpeted floor on top of some toys. The child had brain swelling, hematomas, and a spinal injury. Medical staff report the mother's explanation of the injuries is not consistent with the child's injuries. The child fell but was not taken to the hospital for four days. The allegations of neglectful supervision of the deceased child and his siblings by the mother was confirmed. The child was taken to the hospital where he presented with non-accidental trauma and multiple bruises. The child had brain swelling, hematomas, and a spinal injury. The mother was the primary caregiver for all the children. The sibling ages three and four years old were present and it is reasonable to conclude that they were also at risk of harm.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

09/09/2018 SDM Safety Assessment: Initial - Safe with Plan

09/25/2018 SDM Safety Assessment: Reassessment - Unsafe

01/29/2019 SDM Risk Assessment: High

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Other Services:

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family included counseling and evaluation.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The child's siblings were placed in a Parental Child Safety Placement. The agency requested and was granted custody of both siblings.

If one or more children were previously removed from the home, for each conservatorship episode, summarize dates of conservatorship and type of placement at the end of conservatorship:

Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 12/28/2017

Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The agency received a report that the deceased child was exposed to illegal drugs during the mother's pregnancy with him. It was reported that the mother tested positive for marijuana during her pregnancy. The mother was aware of her pregnancy prior to her positive drug screen. The mother did not test positive again after the initial positive drug screen. The mother and the deceased child did not test positive at the time of birth. The mother admitted to a history of drug abuse but denied any current use or abuse.

Investigation Findings:

The mother reported that she had only used marijuana in the past and last used it a year earlier. The mother did not know that she tested positive for marijuana at her first prenatal visit. The mother gave birth to the child and neither tested positive for drugs. Family members reported that they were unaware of the mother testing positive for drugs during the mother's prenatal care and were not aware of the mother's drug use. The mother and the siblings were residing in a home with multiple family members and there was not proper sleeping space for everyone. A safety plan was implemented to address the supervision of the child and the mother was to follow-up with medical screening for possible mental health concerns. The mother and father agreed and signed the plan. The worker observed the child's siblings, ages two and three years old, and there were no concerns. The mother was drug tested via urinalysis and hair follicle and the results were negative. The mother completed a mental health screening and the results showed no signs of mental health issues. The mother moved into a new apartment with proper sleeping arrangements. The mother was referred to the CRADLES Program for services and was enrolled in an 11 week program.

The allegation of neglectful supervision of the deceased child by the child's mother was not confirmed. The mother tested positive for marijuana during a prenatal visit while pregnant with the child. The mother and child did not test positive at the delivery of the child. The mother was drug tested via urinalysis and hair follicle and the results were negative. The mother admitted to prior marijuana usage and reported her last usage was a year before giving birth to the child. Family members reported not being aware of the mother using drugs or testing positive during her prenatal visit.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

01/09/2018 SDM Safety Assessment: Initial - Safe

04/24/2018 SDM Safety Assessment: Reassessment - Safe

02/10/2018 SDM Risk Assessment: Moderate

Case Action: Close

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:**Case Action:**

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Other Services:

Evaluation; counseling; substance abuse counseling; CRADLES Program

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

Other Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s):

Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:

Investigation Findings:

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Other Services:

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

Note: This report was prepared on 07/15/2019 and does not include corrections or updates, if any, that may be subsequently made to DFPS data on or after the date this report was prepared.